

8mm Tape Retirement Plan

Peter Cooper - CD

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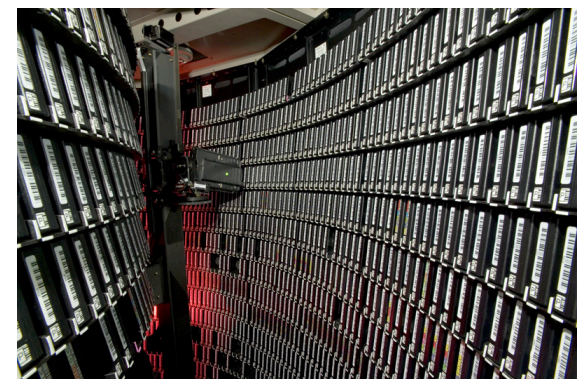
- CD is holding 280K 8mm and DLT tapes in the tape vault system. These are now all unused and mostly at the KTeV Hall electronics room. The capability to read these tapes is limited to ~100/month.
- Before moving this 25 tons of plastic and steel (again) we are requesting a plan from experimenters to identify which tapes have data which **might be useful** and **could be used**. We propose to retire the rest.
- We want to encourage and support the potential for future physics from these data. However exploiting data to produce physics requires software, algorithms, constants, and experts. Keeping the data when some or all of these are long gone makes no sense. Neither does a plan requiring >10 years to read enough tapes.
- We're soliciting input from the experiments to guide this process.

Fermilab 8mm History

- 8mm tape as an HEP data recording media was pioneered by E791 c1990.
- An Exabyte tape drive was (is) a Sony handheld 8mm video camera converted to a computer tape drive. It has the reliability (and cost) of consumer electronics.
- They were adopted by CDF & D0 Run-I and many 1990's fixed target experiments. 280K tapes are in the Tape Vaults . They are now mainly stored at KTeV.
- All are 10-20 years old. Almost none have been read in the last 5 years [1800 from E781(Selex)].
- Tape drives were replaced for Run-II, etc. by networks and tape robots where all data is automatically migrated to new media.

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FCC capability to read 8mm - NEEDFILE

- Only the NEEDFILE system remains.
- Maximum capability 100 tapes/month.
- We still have spare drives, etc.
- Probably could contract out tape reading - but at \$/tape.



Major 8mm Stakeholders

Experiment	No. tapes	Tape prefixes
E740 (D0 Run-I)	70039	DZ IN OM ON PR UU VG VU WM WN XZ YW YY ZR
E741 (CDF Run-I)	50313	BO CB CC PK RJ RK
E871 (HyperCP)	39743	UC UJ UK UL
E831 (FOCUS)	19115	FC FD FR FS FV FW FZ
E791 (Charm)	11395	JE JF JU JV JW JX JZ PU
E665 (Tevatron Muon)	7790	JI WC WD WI WJ XG XH XI
E781 (SELEX)	5850	HV HW
E835 (Charmonium)	4943	GK GN GP
E706 (Direct Photons)	3982	IS UE UF YE YF
E772 (Drell-Yan)	2605	NS
E769 (Charm)	1747	QA TV
E866 (NuSea)	1560	NK
	217335	(85%)
All 8mm tapes :	257279	
KTev	13958	GN KQ KZ NQ NZ QK UP (70%)
All DLT & other tapes:	20910	

Action Items

- Have your old experiment look to see what tapes it has in the vault system.

<http://miscomp.fnal.gov/tapesdb/>

- Think about what to do with them. Make lists!
- Have the experiment's leadership (such as it remains) communicate with us ([pcooper @ fnal.gov](mailto:pcooper@fnal.gov), x2629)
- Expect to be annoyed further when we don't hear from you.